been put on Early Production System to assess the reservoir characteristics and during September, 1987 the production was about 127 tonnes.

(d) The cumulative exploratory drilling expenditure incurred by ONGC in Gujarat till 31-3-87 is Rs. 307.22 crores. The corresponding outlay for 1987-88 and 1988-89 are Rs. 63.82 crores and Rs. 66.90 crores respectively.

Grabbing of Costly ONGC Orders

926. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA :
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Hindustan Times of 18th October, 1987 wherein it has been stated that collusion between senior ONGC officers and ex-officers as liaison agents (sometimes through benami companies) often lead to grabbing of costly ONGC orders in return for crores of rupees as commission, Kickbacks from which go down the well-oiled chain of beneficiaries, involving senior officers and politicians; and

(b) if so, whether through investigations into the modus operandi of each such case has been made; if so, what are the findings and follow-up action; if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BHAHM DUTT) :

(a) Government has seen the news item.

(b) The insinuations made in the news report are rather general and vague and as such do not warrant any investigation. However, ONGC's rules and procedures [illegible] malpractices.

Setting up of Bio-Gas Plants

927. SHRI S S AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state

(a) What is the number of bio-gas plants set up by Government during the last three years in the country (yearwise and statewise);

(b) What is the number of bio-gas plants likely to be set up by Government during the next financial year, Statewise;

(c) Whether bio-gas plants will be set up in Bihar during the next three financial years;

(d) If so, what is the expected number thereof and the names of places where they are proposed to be set up; and

(e) If not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The number of family type biogas plants installed in different Sates, including the plants installed by Khadi and Village Industries Commission during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 is given in the Statement-I (*See* below)

(b) Statewise targets for setting up biogas plants for 1987-88 are given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) to (e) Promotion of biogas plants is likely to be continued in different States/ Union Territories including Bihar during the remaining period of the Seventh Plan depending upon the allocation of funds for the National Project for Biogas Development.

The Statewise targets are fixed on annual basis and the State Governments and programme implementing agencies including Khadi & Village Industries Commission select the places and beneficiaries for setting up family type biogas plant.